

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): A process for preparing a container comprising a wafer and having a wall extending between an outwardly open mouth zone and a narrower zone forming an outward end, the container being arranged such that the closed, narrow end of the wafer forms the bottom tip of the container, ~~and the process comprising, prior to a filling of the container with a food product, the process comprising the steps of:~~

spraying the inner wall of the container with a liquid coating agent that is capable of solidifying rapidly in order to form a coating layer intended, after the food product has been placed in the container, to separate the wafer and the food product, the coating layer being provided in order, subsequently, to be consumed at the same time as the wafer and the food product, the inside of the container being sprayed with an excess quantity of coating agent ~~compared with that which would be strictly necessary to establish a continuous layer over the inner wall of the wafer~~, the excess quantity being sufficient to prevent a coating-gap zone on the inner wall of the wafer that is to come into contact with the food product;

allowing excess liquid coating agent to collect, under gravity, at the bottom tip of the container;

removing, prior to the solidification the excess liquid coating agent;

recycling the excess coating agent to a supply for spraying the inside of the container, the excess coating agent being removed via a pipette positioned close to the bottom tip of the container, an end of the pipette including at least one suction orifice; and

after suction, supplying the orifice with a gaseous flow in order to expel any possible clogging particles that might remain therein, wherein the gaseous flow is blown through the suction orifice so that the flow ejects the particles in a direction that is the same as a passage direction of the flow of recycled coating agent.

Claims 25 (canceled):

Claim 26 (currently amended): A process according to Claim ~~25~~24, wherein the suction orifice is located in a vicinity of a base of a pipette that slides in a guide capable of scraping the outer wall of the pipette causing particles of wafer sticking to the outer wall to fall, under gravity, into the container.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A process according to Claim 26, wherein the suction orifice is positioned laterally on the pipette, and the guide comprises a chamber for blowing the gaseous flow in order to expel the particles of wafer wedged in the orifice.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A process according to Claim 24, wherein the container is a substantially conical cornet.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A process according to Claim 24, wherein the coating agent is chocolate.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A process according to Claim 24, wherein the food product is an ice-cream.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): Container formed from a wafer coated on an inside with a continuous layer of coating agent, the container comprising a wall extending between an outwardly open mouth zone and a narrower zone forming an outward end, the container being arranged such that the closed, narrow end of the wafer forms the bottom tip of the container and being prepared by spraying the inner wall of the container with a liquid coating agent that is capable of solidifying rapidly in order to form a coating layer intended, after the food product has been placed in the container, to separate the wafer and the food product, the coating layer being provided in order, subsequently, to be consumed at the same time as the wafer and the food product, wherein the inside of the container is sprayed with an excess quantity of coating agent that is sufficient to prevent a coating-gap zone on the inner wall of the wafer that is to come into contact with the food product, the excess liquid coating agent collecting, under gravity, at the bottom tip of the container, and being removed, prior to the solidification of the excess liquid coating agent, establishing a continuous barrier over the inner wall of the wafer.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): An installation for implementing a process comprising a conveyor with discontinuous displacement in successive steps, the conveyor comprising elements on each of which at least one receptacle is provided in order to receive a container formed by a wafer, the wall of the container extending between an outwardly open mouth zone and a narrower zone forming an outwardly closed end, the container being arranged in a receptacle such that its closed end forms a bottom tip of the wafer and a spray station on which is arranged, in line with each container carried by a conveyor element that arrives opposite the spray station at a stop instant of the conveyor, a spray head capable of spraying the inner wall of the wafer, the spray head being moveable between a low position in which, in order to distribute a coating agent, the head is positioned in or in the vicinity of a mouth of the container, and an upper position that allows the displacement of the conveyor, a suction station on which is arranged, in line with each container carried by a conveyor element that arrives opposite the suction station at a stop instant of the conveyor, a suction pipette that includes, at its bottom end, at least one suction orifice, the suction pipette being moveable between a low position, in which its bottom end arrives in the vicinity of the bottom tip of the wafer, and an upper position that allows the displacement of the conveyor, the suction station being located downstream of the spray station in the direction of displacement of the conveyor, and in that the upper position of each pipette of the suction station brings the suction orifice into a chamber where a gaseous flow blows through the orifice.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 32, wherein the suction orifice is arranged laterally in the vicinity of the base of the suction pipettes, and in that the gaseous flow blown in the chambers expels the particles of wafer wedged in the orifices.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 32, wherein the displacement of each suction pipette between its low position and its upper position takes place by means of a guide that scrapes the outer wall of the pipette associated with it in order to cause particles of wafer sticking to the outer wall to fall, under gravity, into the container.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 32, wherein each pipette includes an inner channel via which the excess coating agent is conveyed to a reservoir under reduced pressure, the gaseous flow that blows through the orifice originating from an air inlet provided in each chamber, the blowing air being sent towards the reservoir as is the sucked-out coating agent.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 35, wherein the reservoir is equipped with a device for regulating the air pressure prevailing therein.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 35 comprising a pump that provides the coating agent to the spray station at a pressure that is greater than atmospheric pressure.

Claim 38 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 34 comprising using a coating agent that is a fluid when hot and solidifies at ambient temperature, a pump that provides the coating agent to the spray station and, a heat exchange is interposed between the pump and spray station.

Claim 39 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 38, comprising at least one filter located on the pipes for circulating the coating agent.

Claim 40 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 39, comprising a filter located on the circulation pipe connecting the heat exchanger and the spray station.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 32, wherein the container is a substantially conical cornet.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 32, wherein the coating agent is chocolate.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): Installation according to Claim 32, wherein the product packaged in the container is an ice-cream.

Claim 44 (currently amended): A process comprising the steps of:

prior to filling of a container consisting of a wafer with a food product, spraying an inner wall of the container with a liquid coating agent, the coating agent being capable of solidifying rapidly in order to form a coating layer to separate the wafer and the food product in the container, the inside of the container being sprayed with an excess quantity of coating agent ~~compared with that which would be strictly necessary to establish a continuous layer over the inner wall of the wafer~~ to prevent a coating-gap zone on the inner wall of the wafer that comes into contact with the food product, the excess liquid coating agent collecting, under gravity, at a bottom tip of the container, and prior to the solidification of the excess, the excess is suctioned out of the container and recycled to the supply for spraying the inside of the container, the coating agent being suctioned out using a pipette positioned close to a bottom tip of the container, an end of the pipette including at least one suction orifice, and after suction, the orifice is supplied with a gaseous flow in order to expel any particles from the orifice, wherein the gaseous flow is blown through the suction orifice so that the flow ejects the particles in a direction that is the same as a passage direction of the flow of recycled coating agent.